

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USAGE

CINCPAC

COGARD

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

JEC PARIS 1412-5

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O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC,US

SUBJECT: MAY 17 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. GVN COMMAND SAYS BELIEVES HALF OF DAK PEK DEFENDERS
KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING AS BASE OVERRUN BY 5000
NVA WITH TANK SUPPORT; FATE OF DEFENDERS OF NEARBY
DISTRICT MIL. HQ AND OVER 3000 CIVILIANS, MAINLY
MONTAGNARDS, IN DISTRICT CAPITAL UNKNOWN (AP NYT,
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SUN; CSM; WP). "RELIABLE" MIL. SOURCES SAY RECON.

PILOTS REPORT DAK PEK GARRISON SURVIVORS FLEE TO SURROUNDING HILLS, THEIR PROSPECTS "GRIM" SINCE NEAREST GVN OUTPOST IS 40 MILES AWAY ACROSS DIFFICULT TERRAIN (REUTER SAIGON).

2. IN CAMBODIA, "INFORMED" SOURCES SAY LONG BORET GOVT. MAY BE FORCED TO RESIGN BECAUSE OF DETERIORATING MIL. AND ECON. SITUATIONS. REBELS KEEP UP PRESSURE ON KOMPONG SOM, WHILE AT PP STUDENTS AND TEACHERS PLAN STRIKE NEXT FRIDAY TO PROTEST SOARING PRICES (REUTER, CSM).

3. RESOLUTION PROPOSED AT INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN KYOTO TO ASK FOR PERMISSION TO SEND TEAM TO CAMBODIA TO SEARCH FOR 21 MISSING

JOURNALISTS, SOME OF WHOM MAY BE ALIVE AND IN CAPTIVITY. THEY WERE FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING US, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA, AND MOST DISAPPEARED IN CONFUSED EARLY DAYS OF WAR FOLLOWING SIHANOUK OUSTER (REUTER).

CHINA

4. JOC 'S STRAUSS, IN HK, REPORTS CANTON FAIR CLOSED AMID INDICATIONS THAT IT "WENT WORSE THAN EXPECTED" FOR BOTH HOSTS AND VISITORS. SAYS TRAVELERS RETURNING FROM CANTON REPORT BOTH CHINESE SALES AND PURCHASES WERE DOWN, ALTHOUGH DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE EXTENT OF SALES DROP BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES; EXPERIENCED TRADERS ALSO NOTED THAT SUPPLIES OF IMPORTANT CHINESE COMMODITIES WERE IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY. ONE "RELIABLE ESTIMATE" PUT SALES TO CHINA DOWN 20 PERCENT FROM FALL FAIR. SOME FIRMS WERE ASKED TO STAY ON, HOWEVER, AND THERE WERE INDICATIONS OF SECOND ROUND OF STEEL PURCHASE TALKS IN PEKING IN NEAR FUTURE. BUYERS HAD ONE MAJOR PROBLEM -- REN MIN BI WAS REVALUED BY 5.56 PERCENT AGAINST DOLLAR DURING SESSION. AMERICANS "HAVE A PARTICULAR PROBLEM" IN THIS RESPECT: THEY ARE UNABLE TO BUY ADVANCE RMB IN US, THOUGH SUCH SERVICE IS AVAILABLE IN HK. IN GENERAL, MANY BUYERS UNCLASSIFIED

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SEEMED TO THINK CHINESE HAD PUSHED PRICES TO PEAK AND THAT THEY MUST NOW LEVEL OUT OR DECLINE. THIS WAS MAJOR PROBLEM CHINESE TRADERS FACED, "AND ALTHOUGH THERE WAS EXTREME STUBBORNNESS" DURING MOST OF FAIR, LAST THREE DAYS SHOWED WILLINGNESS TO BARGAIN, INDICATING SOME PRICES MAY HAVE BEEN LOWERED. STRAUSS NOTES ONLY THREE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS (NONE US) RECEIVED VISAS TO FAIR, BUT MORE AMERICANS (ALMOST 250) ATTENDED

THAN BEFORE, AND IN OTHER RESPECTS FAIR PROCEEDED
UNTOUCHED BY IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN.

5. QUOTING "RELIABLE SOURCE," KYODO REPORTS FROM
HK THAT LIU SHAO-CHI DIED OF LUNG CANCER LAST SPRING.
SOURCE QUOTED SAYING THIS INFO OBTAINED FROM HIGH-
RANKING PRC OFFICIAL SOURCES DURING RECENT VISIT
TO CHINA. KYODO SAYS THERE WAS SIMILAR REPORT FROM
BRITISH SOURCES LAST YEAR (REUTER TOKYO).

6. INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION APPROVES PRC
ADMISSION (AND EXCLUDING ROC), GIVING PEKING MEMBERSHIP
IN FIVE REQUIRED SPORTS FEDERATIONS FOR ENTRY INTO
OLYMPIC MOVEMENT (AP, WP).

7. CSM CARRIES FINANCIAL TIMES SERVICE ITEM THAT,
ALMOST UNNOTICED BY REST OF WORLD, PRC IS QUIETLY
APPROACHING CRUCIAL STAGE IN ITS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
AT WHICH IT IS ABOUT TO EQUAL BRITISH STEEL PRODUCTION.
EVENT WILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE PROPAGANDA VALUE AND
POSSIBLE DOMESTIC IMPACT WITHIN CHINA. BRITISH STEEL
PRODUCTION WAS 26.6 MILLION METRIC TONS LAST YEAR.
IN 1972, PRC ANNOUNCED IT HAD TURNED OUT 23 MILLION
METRIC TONS; BUT, FOR UNDISCLOSED REASONS, DID NOT
RELEASE STEEL PRODUCTION STATISTICS LAST YEAR.
LOOK AT CHINA'S OLD NEWSPAPERS INDICATES COUNTRY
EXPECTED TO BE PRODUCING 40 MILLION TONS YEARLY AT
ABOUT THIS DATE. OBSERVERS STILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE
DIFFICULTY EVALUATING PRC INDUSTRIAL STATUS BASED
ON STEEL STATISTICS BECAUSE CHINA'S STEEL FIGURES
INCLUDE "NATIVE STEELS" THAT ARE EXTREMELY LOW IN
QUALITY AND UNUSABLE IN INDUSTRY. IN ANY CASE, PRC'S
STEEL INDUSTRY HAS COME LONG WAY; COUNTRY'S FIRST
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STEEL PLATES FOR SHIPS WERE PRODUCED IN 1964.

AUSTRALIA

8. UPI PERTH DISPATCH REPORTS DEMONSTRATORS AGAINST
US COMMUNICATION BASE AT NORTHWEST CAPE SCUFFLED
WITH PERTH POLICE THURSDAY. AT LEAST SEVEN ARRESTED
AS POLICE USED FOOTBALL TACKLES TO STOP MORE THAN
100 DEMONSTRATORS (WP). PHINQ REPORT SAYS DEMONSTRATORS
"GOT WORKED OVER PRETTY GOOD" BY POLICE. GROUP STARTED
OFF WITH STREET THEATER, FEATURING WOMAN STARRING
AS "WALTZING MATILDA" AND MAN BILLED AS "UNCLE SAM."
"WALTZING MATILDA" WAS DISMAYED AFTER POLICE GRABBED
DEMONSTRATORS. "UNCLE SAM'S BEEN ARRESTED," SHE
MOANED TO REPORTERS ON SCENE. "MY CLOTHES HAVE BEEN

STOLEN AND MY BREASTS HAVE BEEN PINCHED."

9. OPINION POLL PREDICTION THURSDAY THAT ALP WILL WIN NATIONAL ELECTION BY SLIM MARGIN SURPRISES POLITICAL COMMENTATORS, WHO WERE PREDICTING WHITLAM DEFEAT (AP, CSM). IN SYDNEY, CSM'S SOUTHERLAND FINDS THIS ONE OF MOST HOTLY CONTESTED ELECTIONS AUSTRALIA HAS EVER SEEN, "AND EASILY THE MOST COMPLICATED." SAYS THANKS TO COMPLICATED NATURE OF VOTING, ALP'S BIGGEST WORRY AT MOMENT IS THAT MANY OF ITS SYMPATHIZERS WILL CAST INVALID BALLOTS.

JAPAN

10. LAT'S JAMESON (MAY 16) IN TOKYO REPORTS UPPER HOUSE APPROVAL OF PRC-JAPAN CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT, BUT ONLY 140 OF 245 MEMBERS WERE PRESENT FOR VOTE. CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT WERE 70 LDP MEMBERS - MORE THAN HALF OF PARTY'S UPPER HOUSE DELEGATION. ALTHOUGH SOME WERE UNOFFICIALLY CAMPAIGNING FOR JULY 7 ELECTION, MOST BOYCOTTED VOTING TO EXPRESS DISPLEASURE WITH OHIRA'S HANDLING OF AIR PACT. BOYCOTT DUPLICATED SIMILAR PROTEST BY 57 LDP MEMBERS IN LOWER HOUSE WHEN THAT CHAMBER PASSED AGREEMENT MAY 7. FAILURE OF PARTY MEMBERS TO CAST DISSENTING VOTE, HOWEVER, SAVED TANAKA FROM INNER PARTY CRISIS. UNDER PARTY UNCLASSIFIED

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RULES, ANY OPPOSING VOTES WOULD HAVE FORCED TANAKA TO HAVE TAKEN SOME ACTION AGAINST DISSENTERS. SPEAKING IN NEWS CONFERENCE AFTER AGREEMENT PASSED UPPER HOUSE, OHIRA SAID HE FORESAW MORE PROBLEMS IN FUTURE AS JAPAN ATTEMPTS TO DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH CHINA WHILE KEEPING NONGOV'T. ECON TIES WITH TAIWAN. OHIRA SAID MOOD IN TAIWAN NOT RIPE FOR JAPAN TO SEEK RE-OPENING OF TOKYO-TAIPEI AIR ROUTES AT THIS TIME.

11. SUN'S SEIDEN IN TOKYO REPORTS START OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS WAYS OF PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN FIGHTING POLLUTION.

12. REUTER KYOTO DATELINED MAY 16 (NYT) REPORTS IPI DEPLORING CONTINUING TREND BY NON-COMMUNIST GOV'TS. TO CURB PRESS FREEDOM AND FREE FLOW OF NEWS. MEETING ON LAST DAY OF 4-DAY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IPI ADOPTED BY 75 TO 2 VOTE, WITH 7 ABSTENTIONS, S KOREAN RESOLUTION SAYING THAT ONLY 20 TO 25 OF 135 MEMBER NATIONS OF UN TODAY ENJOY PRESS FREEDOM. RESOLUTION SAYS, "THIS TREND ENDANGERS THE IMAGE OF NATIONS WHOSE LEADERSHIP

HAS WIDE AND OFTEN SYMPATHETIC COVERAGE BY THE FREE WORLD PRESS."

13. MITSUBISHI LPG ANNOUNCES IN TOKYO AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH EXXON WILL RAISE ITS LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS SUPPLY PRICE FOR MITSUBISHI BY ABOUT 60 PERCENT, TO ABOUT 110 DOLLARS PER METRIC TON, RETROACTIVE TO APRIL 1 (AP NYPOST).

14. JOC STAFFER REPORTS EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE COMPANIES MAKING LARGE INVESTMENTS IN US IN BASIC INDUSTRIES,

INCLUDING STEEL, ALUMINUM, CHEMICALS, AUTO, AIRCRAFT MACHINERY.

15. MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL BOARD SPOKESMAN IN JACKSON SAYS JAPANESE BUYERS AND MISSISSIPPI MARKETING OFFICIALS HAVE CONCLUDED TRADE TALKS WHICH COULD RESULT IN NEW, MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BONANZA UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR STATE FARMERS AND FARM-ORIENTED INDUSTRIES. JAPANESE BUYERS ARE KEENLY INTERESTED IN BOOSTING THEIR IMPORTS OF DRIED EGGS, POULTRY PRODUCTS, COTTON, PULPWOOD AND TIMBER. TALKS RESULTED FROM RECENT TRADE MISSION TO JAPAN BY GOV. WALLER, STATE MARKETING OFFICIALS, AND FARM BELT LEADERS, WHO SOUGHT NEW PRODUCT MARKETS AND TO ATTRACT INTEREST IN REVERSE INVESTMENT. RECENT DISPLAY OF MISSISSIPPI FARM PRODUCTS AT AMERICAN FOOD FESTIVAL IN TOKYO ALSO STIMULATED JAPANESE BUYER INTEREST (JOC).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

JAPAN

16. WP'S STERN DOES FRONT-PAGE PIECE ON "SUSPENSEFUL" DELAY CAUSED BY SYMINGTON IN SFRC APPROVAL OF HODGSON NOMINATION. SYMINGTON SAYS HIS CONCERN STEMS FROM POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN LOYALTY TO LOCKHEED AND HODGSON'S PROSPECTIVE ROLE IN JAPAN; HE INSISTS THAT IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WELFARE OF MCDONNELL DOUGLAS, ONE OF MISSOURI'S BIGGEST EMPLOYERS. NOR DID SYMINGTON MAKE PUBLIC ALLUSION TO FACT THAT LOCKHEED AND MCDONNELL ARE COMPETING IN JAPAN FOR SALE OF L-1011S VS. DC-10S, AND ARE POTENTIAL RIVALS THERE FOR FIGHTER CONTRACTS.

SYMINGTON SAYS HIS DOUBTS ARE NOT CONFINED TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTION. "A COUNTRY SO

CRUCIAL TO OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS AS JAPAN SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO REPRESENTATION BY A QUALIFIED CAREER DIPLOMAT." SYMINGTON MADE CLEAR HE SEES NOTHING IN HODGSON'S LOCKHEED CAREER TO QUALIFY HIM FOR TOKYO JOB; BUT NO SUCH DISSENTS WERE RAISED WHEN BORG-WARNER'S INGERSOLL WAS NOMINATED, NOR AT RECENT HEARINGS ON FIRESTONE'S APPOINTMENT TO BELGIUM.

AIRCRAFT COMPETITION WOULD SEEM REMOTE FROM CHOICE OF AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN, SAYS STERN. "BUT A NUMBER OF SENATORIAL KIBITZERS ON CAPITOL HILL AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT DON'T THINK IT IS."
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17. LAT'S JAMESON (MAY 16) IN TOKYO REPORTS AKIYUKI NOZAKA, PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR OF EROTIC NOVELS WHO ANNOUNCED HE WOULD SEEK SEAT IN DIET FROM TOKYO DISTRICT IN JULY 7 UPPER HOUSE ELECTION, ADVOCATING EMPEROR'S RESIGNATION AND END TO EMPEROR SYSTEM AT LUNCHEON MEETING AT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CLUB. ARGUES THAT EMPEROR RESPONSIBLE FOR WWII, THAT "IT WAS BY CHANTING 'LONG LIVE THE EMPEROR' THAT MILLIONS OF JAPANESE WERE FORCED TO DIE AND MANY FOREIGNERS KILLED. SOME PEOPLE SAY THERE WOULD BE CONFUSION WITHOUT AN EMPEROR, BUT LET THERE BE CONFUSION. IN THAT CONFUSION, WE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND NEW BELIEFS ON OUR OWN STRENGTH AND BUILD UP A NEW ORDER."

NOZAKA REVEALED THAT DESPITE HIS VIEWS, LDP HAD ASKED HIM TO RUN AS ONE OF ITS CANDIDATES IN JULY 7 ELECTION. WILL RUN AS INDEPENDENT SINCE HE SEES NOTHING IN COMMON BETWEEN HIS THINKING AND LDP, "THE ONES WHO ARE PUSHING A BILL TO PUT THE YASUKUNI SHRINE UNDER STATE PROTECTION AND WHO ARE TRYING TO USE THE EMPEROR (TO BOLSTER THE POWER OF THE STATE)." NOZAKA SAID HE WAS DISTURBED BY RECEPTION JAPANESE GAVE ONODA AFTER 29 YEARS OF HIDING IN PHILS. "JAPANESE PEOPLE ROSE UP TO PROCLAIM THAT ONODA'S SPIRIT - THE SPIRIT OF THE SAMURAI - WAS THE TRUE SPIRIT THE JAPANESE OUGHT TO HAVE. ONE WONDERED IF JAPAN REALLY LOST THE WAR. JAPAN DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE LEARNED ANYTHING FROM ITS EXPERIENCE."

CHINA

18. TAKING SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT TACK, S-N'S BRADSHER (MAY 16) REPORTS PRC OFFICIALS SHOWING RENEWED INTEREST IN CARRYING OUT CULTURAL EXCHANGES WITH US, FOLLOWING PERIOD WHEN INTERNAL STRUGGLE WHICH APPARENTLY

MADE THEM WARY OF RELATIONSHIP. ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOW BEING MADE FOR REMAINDER OF EXCHANGES AGREED ON WHEN HAK WAS IN PEKING LAST NOV. UNCERTAIN, HOWEVER, WHETHER IN ITS NEW INTERNAL MOOD CHINA WILL BE EAGER TO ACCEPT FURTHER EXCHANGE PACKAGE. SOME UNOFFICIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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EXCHANGES ENVISIONED IN FRIENDLINESS OF HAK'S VISIT HAVE FAILED TO MATERIALIZE. FOR EXAMPLE, US OFFICIALS HOPED THEN THAT PRC WOULD OPEN UP BIT MORE FOR US JOURNALISTS. INSTEAD, IT HAS BEEN CLOSED TIGHTER, WITH US REPORTERS NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO ATTEND CANTON FAIR.

PRC OFFICIALS RECENTLY BEGAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH USLO ON EXHIBITION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL TREASURES. MEANWHILE,

APRIL ISSUE OF RED FLAG CONTAINS ARTICLE ATTACKING UNNAMED PERSONS IN SOME LEADING DEPARTMENTS WHO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ANCIENT RELICS BUT NONE TO MODERN REVOLUTIONARY RELICS. BRADSHER SAYS ARTICLE APPARENTLY PLACED BY RADICAL GROUP WHICH HAS BEEN ATTACKING CHOU "AND HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH" US.

19. FROM MACAO, SAM COHEN OF LONDON OBSERVER SERVICE REPORTS THAT COLONY'S RESIDENTS PREFER PORTUGUESE RULE DESPITE HOPES RAISED FOR INDEPENDENCE IN PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN POSSESSIONS FOLLOWING LISBON COUP. EXCEPT FOR 1966 RIOTS, RESIDENTS HAVE RARELY RESORTED TO ANY ANTI-GOVT. DEMONSTRATIONS OR VIOLENCE, AND THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT EVEN COMMUNISTS WILL CAUSE WORRIES FOR NEW GOVT. IN LISBON. AS WITH HONG KONG, LOCAL COMMUNISTS DO NOT WISH TO BE ANNEXED TO CHINA. PRC PREFERS TO KEEP MACAO AS FOREIGN COLONY AND OUTLET FOR ITS PRODUCTS AS WELL AS PROPAGANDA. ITS INFLUENCE IN MACAO IS REMARKABLE; IT CONTROLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TRADE UNIONS, SCHOOLS, NEWSPAPERS, AND MANY OTHER IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS. BY CONTRAST, TAIWAN INFLUENCE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY REDUCED SINCE 1966, AND TAIPEI HAS HAD TO CLOSE DOWN ITS MISSION. PEKING ALSO MANAGED TO HAVE ITS OWN WAY IN FORCING MACAO TO AGREE TO RETURN ANY CHINESE REFUGEES WHO SAIL OR SWIM TO MACAO (PHINQ).

VIETNAM

20. FROM SAIGON, LAT'S MCARTHUR (MAY 16) REPORTS THAT CONGRESSIONAL REFUSAL TO ADVANCE SUPPLEMENTAL AID FOR FY ENDING JUNE 30 HAS DISLOCATED MIL SUPPLY UNCLASSIFIED

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PIPELINES AND GIVEN ALREADY SHAKY DOMESTIC ECONOMY SEVERE PSYCHOLOGICAL BLOW. WHILE COUNTRY'S WAR EFFORT IS BEING SUSTAINED AND SUFFICIENT AMMO WILL CERTAINLY BE PROVIDED, CERTAIN SHORTAGES ARE BEING FELT. JOINT GENERAL STAFF HAS ORDERED MILITARY GAS CONSUMPTION CUT IN HALF; ORDER ALSO GIVEN TO CONSERVE AMMO, BUT THIS ORDER WAS EVIDENTLY LESS PRECISE. BOTH US AND GVN OFFICIALS DECLINE PUBLIC COMMENT ON VIRTUALLY ALL ASPECTS OF AID CUT, BUT OVERALL IT APPEARS EVIDENT ARVN HAS MORE THAN ENOUGH TO MEET LIKELY POSSIBILITIES OF NEXT 6 WEEKS.

WHEN PROPOSED 260 MILLION SUPPLEMENTARY MILITARY AID APPROPRIATION DIED IN CONGRESS, PENTAGON BOOKKEEPERS EVIDENTLY SET ABOUT SWITCHING PRIORITIES TO INSURE FLOW OF VITAL MATERIAL. EFFORT ONLY PARTLY SUCCESSFUL,

SINCE SOME ITEMS HAVE ALREADY RUN OUT. EFFECTS NOT BEING FELT IN ACTUAL OPERATION, HOWEVER, BECAUSE LOCAL COMMANDERS ARE CANNIBALIZING SOME EQUIPMENT TO KEEP REST GOING. SOME ECON ANALYSTS SAY GOOD PART OF BLAME FOR CURRENT DISLOCATIONS BELONGS TO DAO WHICH MISREAD CONGRESSIONAL TEMPER AND FAILED EFFECTIVELY TO PUT BRAKES ON VIETNAMESE MONTHS AGO.

ECON AID DECLINE HAS HAD SIMILAR EFFECT ON CIVILIAN ECONOMY WHICH ALREADY SEVERELY STRAINED BY OIL PRICE HIKE. GVN'S DOLLAR EXCHANGE HOLDINGS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE FALLEN TO ABOUT 100 MILLION DOLLARS - WELL BELOW FIGURE US EXPERTS FEEL NECESSARY FOR PAYING NATION'S ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD BILLS. SOME EXPERTS FEEL SITUATION SO SERIOUS, SVN WILL SOON HAVE TO BORROW ON GOLD HOLDINGS. GVN SAID TO BE UNWILLING TO DO SO BECAUSE GOLD PLAYS IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL ROLE IN ASIA. NEWS THAT SAIGON WAS SELLING GOLD WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE DAMAGING REPERCUSSIONS. HUMAN RIGHTS

21. COLMAN MCCARTHY (WP) TELLS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S AGITATION AGAINST DETENTION AND TORTURE OF PEOPLE FOR WHAT THEY SAY OR THINK. SUGGESTS AI HAD ROLE IN RECALL OF "PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISERS" UNDER FOREIGN UNCLASSIFIED

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AID BILL LAST YEAR, AND CITES MARCH REPORT OF HFAC SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND MOVEMENTS WHICH CRITICIZES USG'S "DISMAL RECORD" ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

REPORT SAYS, "THE HUMAN RIGHTS FACTOR IS NOT ACCORDED THE HIGH PRIORITY IT DESERVES IN OUR COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY...UNFORTUNATELY, THE PREVAILING ATTITUDE HAS THE US EMBRACING GOVERNMENTS WHICH PRACTICE TORTURE AND UNABASHEDLY VIOLATE ALMOST EVERY HUMAN RIGHTS GUARANTEE PRONOUNCED BY THE WORLD COMMUNITY. THROUGH FOREIGN AID AND OCCASIONAL INTERVENTION - BOTH COVERT AND OVERT - THE US SUPPORTS THOSE GOVERNMENTS." CITES, AMONG OTHERS, SVN, INDONESIA AND PHILS AS EXEMPLIFYING HOW "WE HAVE DISREGARDED HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE SAKE OF OTHER ASSUMED INTERESTS."

WHAT REPORT MEANS, SAYS MCCARTHY, IS THAT WHEN MAKING CHOICE IN TERMS OF LINING UP "POWER POLITICS" AND OUR SUPPOSED LARGER "SECURITY INTERESTS" WE ALL TOO OFTEN FIND OURSELVES ON SIDE OF TYRANTS AT EXPENSE OF THEIR VICTIMS. IF OFFICIAL POLICY OCCASIONALLY IS STRAINED BY A COUNTRY'S BRUTALITY, CONSIDERATIONS OF INVESTMENTS OF US FIRMS WITHIN THAT LAND ARE OFTEN ENOUGH TO KEEP US SUPPORT INTACT. IN KOREA, THERE ARE REPORTS THAT STUDENTS, CLERGY AND INTELLECTUALS

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ARE IMPRISONED FOR PEACEFULLY CHALLENGING PARK, WHO ELOQUENTLY EXPRESSED CLASSIC THOUGHT OF OPPRESSORS: "IT IS SELF-EVIDENT WHAT THEY ARE AIMING AT BY AGITATING PEOPLE WITH TALK OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOMS." RUSH

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